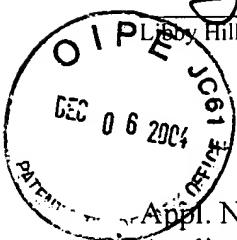


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on December 2, 2004 in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Ref. no. 12439-0075

FW 3729



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/753,310 Confirmation No. 8359
Applicant : Eldridge et al.
Filed : December 29, 2000
TC/A.U. : 3729
Examiner : Carl J. Arbes

Docket No. : P34D1-US

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 2, 2004, the period for response to which has been extended to December 2, 2004 by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please consider the following remarks:

The **Claims** as pending are reflected in the list of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper. (No amendments are made to the claims.)

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.